

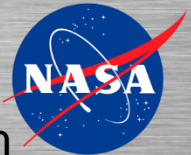


Effects of Vehicle Weight and True Versus Indicated Airspeed on BVI Noise During Steady Descending Flight

Presented by:

James Stephenson
U.S. Army Aviation and Missile
Research, Development, and
Engineering Center

Eric Greenwood
NASA Langley
Aeroacoustics Branch





U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

Motivation



**Effects of Vehicle Weight and
True Versus Indicated
Airspeed on BVI Noise During
Steady Descending Flight**

Stephenson & Greenwood

Background

Motivation

Analysis Technique

Experiment Description

Vehicle Characteristics

Flight Conditions

Results

BVI Extraction vs BVISPL

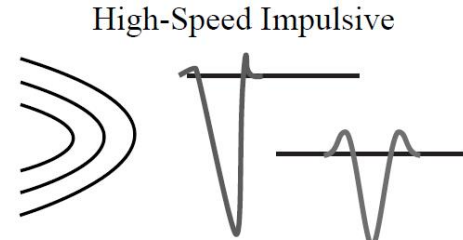
Average BVI

BVI Standard Deviation

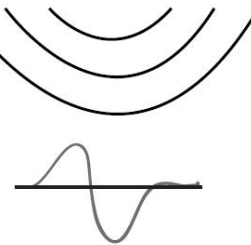
Conclusions



Tail Rotor



Blade Vortex Interaction



Loading



U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

Motivation



Effects of Vehicle Weight and
True Versus Indicated
Airspeed on BVI Noise During
Steady Descending Flight

Stephenson & Greenwood

Background

Motivation

Analysis Technique

Experiment Description

Vehicle Characteristics

Flight Conditions

Results

BVI Extraction vs BVISPL

Average BVI

BVI Standard Deviation

Conclusions

Aerodynamics Affecting BVI Noise

- Inflow
- Blade Loading
- Advance Ratio

Flight Test Uncertainties

- Inconsistent Vehicle Flight Path
- Inconsistent Vehicle Velocity
- Atmospheric Effects (Wind, Temperature, Etc.)
- Blade-Blade Variations
- Variable Weight (Fuel burn)

Schmitz, F. H., Boxwell, D. A., Lewy, S., and Dahan, C., "In-Flight Far-Field Measurement of Helicopter Impulsive Noise," *American Helicopter Society 32nd Annual Forum*, 1976.

Lowson, M. V., "Focusing on Helicopter BVI Noise," *Journal of Sound and Vibration*, Vol. 190, (3), 1996, pp. 477–494.



U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

Motivation



Effects of Vehicle Weight and
True Versus Indicated
Airspeed on BVI Noise During
Steady Descending Flight

Stephenson & Greenwood

Background

Motivation

Analysis Technique

Experiment Description

Vehicle Characteristics

Flight Conditions

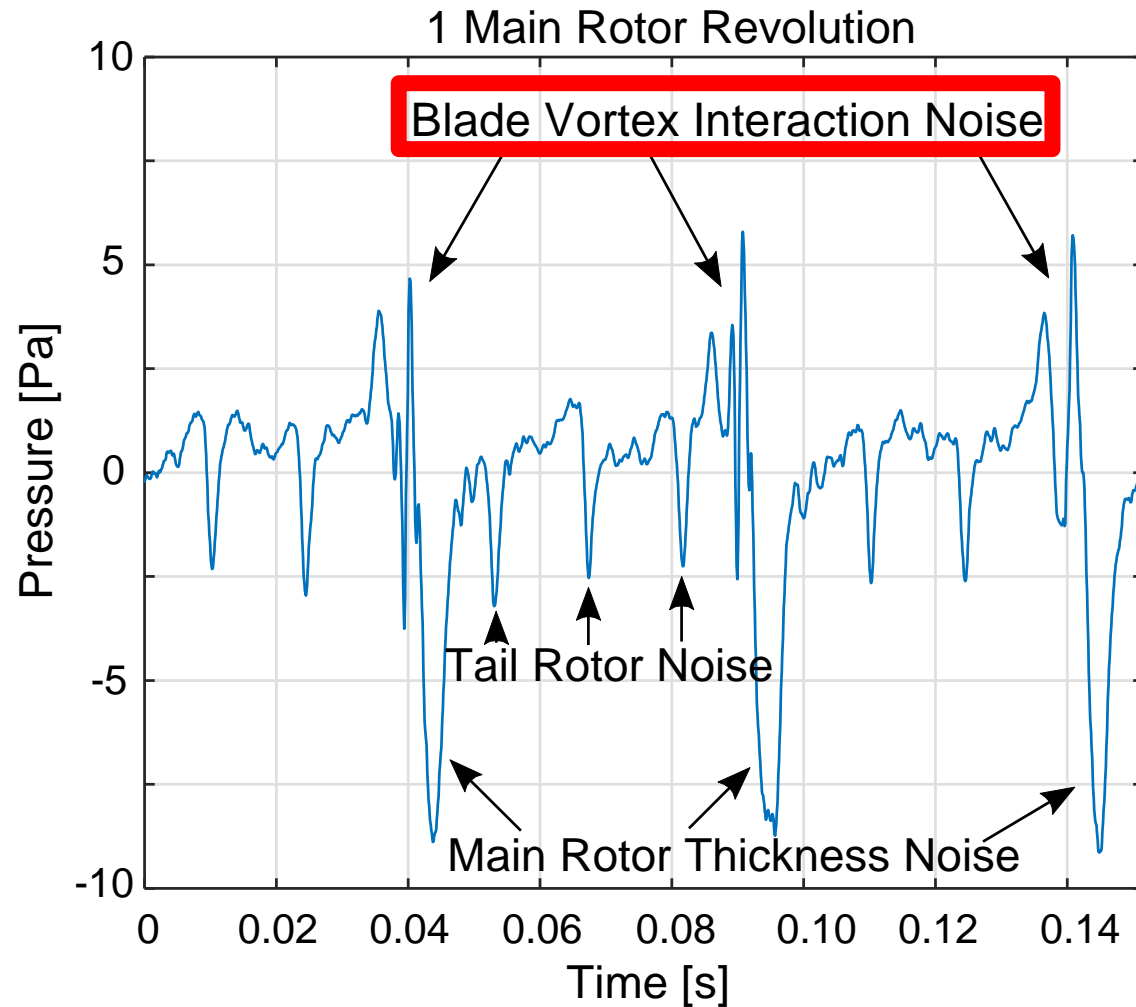
Results

BVI Extraction vs BVISPL

Average BVI

BVI Standard Deviation

Conclusions





U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

Analysis Technique



Effects of Vehicle Weight and
True Versus Indicated
Airspeed on BVI Noise During
Steady Descending Flight

Stephenson & Greenwood

Background

Motivation

Analysis Technique

Experiment Description

Vehicle Characteristics

Flight Conditions

Results

BVI Extraction vs BVISPL

Average BVI

BVI Standard Deviation

Conclusions

Wavelet Transform

$$\tilde{p}(l, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{l}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(t') \psi_w^*\left(\frac{t' - t}{l}\right) dt'$$

Morlet Wavelet

$$\hat{\psi}_M(l, \omega, \omega_\psi) = \sqrt{2\pi l \frac{f_s}{N}} \pi^{-1/4} H(\omega) e^{-(l\omega - \omega_\psi)^2/2}$$

Wavelet Energy

$$E(f, t) = \frac{1}{C_\psi} \frac{|\tilde{p}(f, t)|^2}{l^2}$$

Inverse Wavelet Transform

$$p(t') = \frac{1}{C_\psi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_l \frac{1}{\sqrt{l'}} \tilde{p}(l', t) \psi_w\left(\frac{t' - t}{l'}\right) \frac{dl' dt}{l'^2}$$



U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

Analysis Technique



Effects of Vehicle Weight and True Versus Indicated Airspeed on BVI Noise During Steady Descending Flight

Stephenson & Greenwood

Background

Motivation

Analysis Technique

Experiment Description

Vehicle Characteristics

Flight Conditions

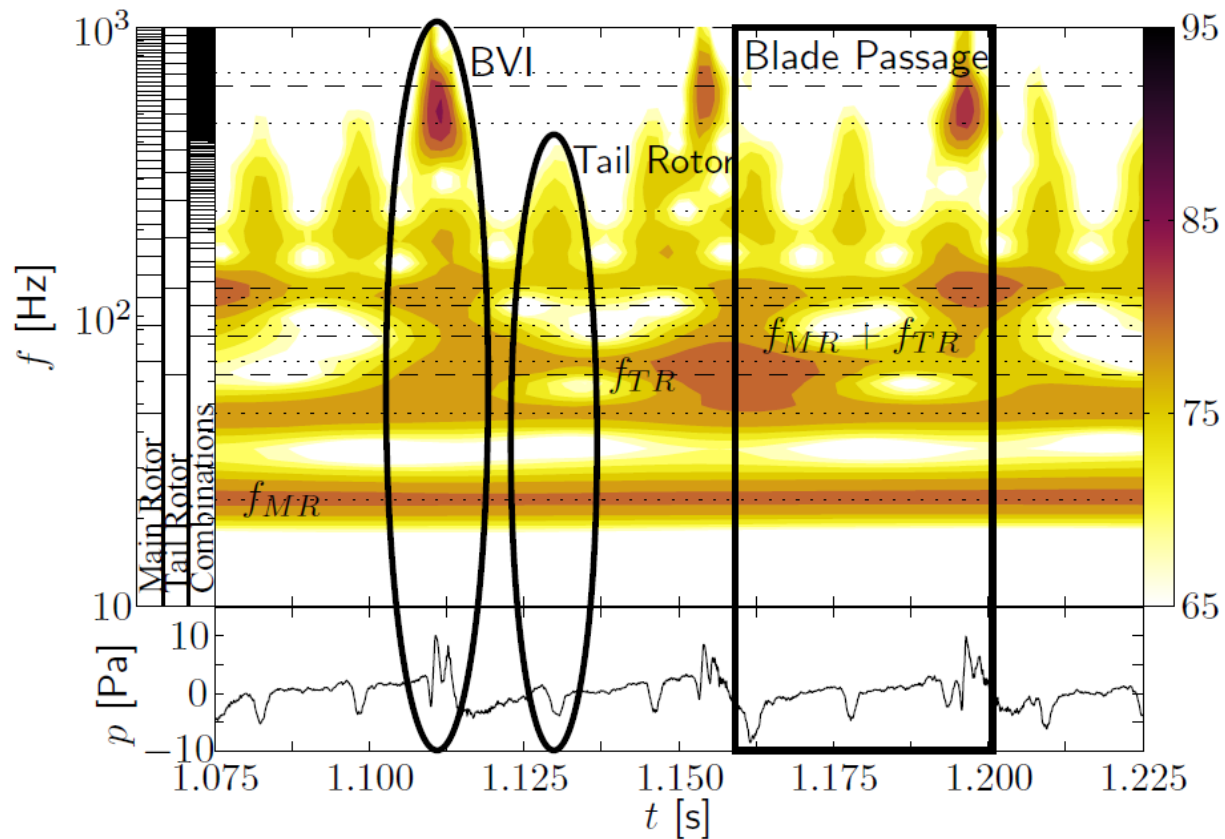
Results

BVI Extraction vs BVISPL

Average BVI

BVI Standard Deviation

Conclusions



Martin, R. M. and Hardin, J. C., "Spectral Characteristics of Rotor Blade/Vortex Interaction Noise," *Journal of Aircraft*, Vol. 25, (1), 1988, pp. 62–68.

Stephenson, J. H., *Extraction of Blade Vortex Interactions from Helicopter Transient Maneuvering Noise*, Ph.D. thesis, University of Texas at Austin, 2014.



U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

Analysis Technique



Effects of Vehicle Weight and
True Versus Indicated
Airspeed on BVI Noise During
Steady Descending Flight

Stephenson & Greenwood

Background

Motivation

Analysis Technique

Experiment Description

Vehicle Characteristics

Flight Conditions

Results

BVI Extraction vs BVISPL

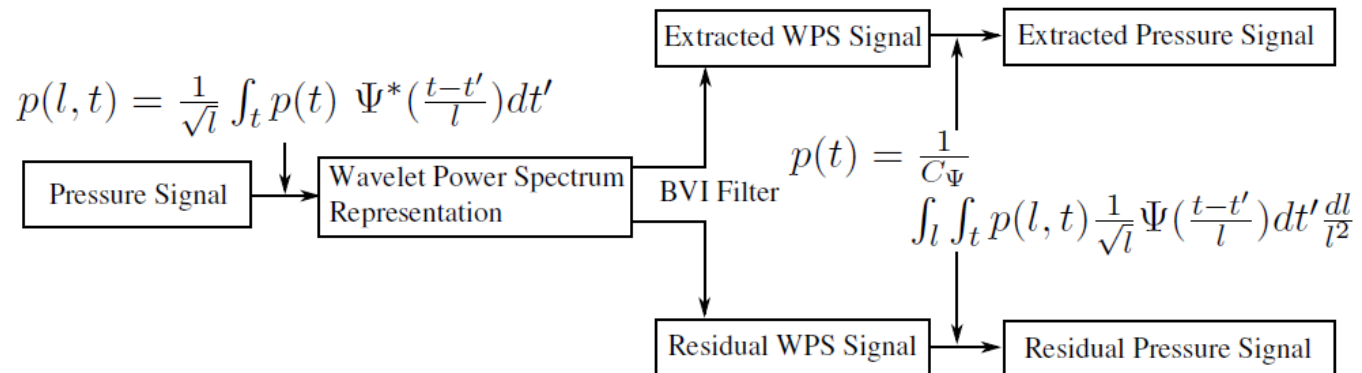
Average BVI

BVI Standard Deviation

Conclusions

BVI Filter

$$\tilde{p}(f_j, t_i) = \begin{cases} \tilde{p}(f_j, t_i) & \text{if } f_j > f_{cut} \text{ and} \\ & E(f_j, t_i) > E(f_{MR}, t_i) - A_{cut} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



Davis, W., Pezeshki, C., and Mosher, M., "Extracting and Characterizing Blade-Vortex Interaction Noise with Wavelets," *Journal of the American Helicopter Society*, Vol. 42, (3), 1997, pp. 264-271.

Stephenson, J. H., Tinney, C. E., Greenwood, E., and Watts, M. E., "Extracting Blade Vortex Interactions using Continuous Wavelet Transforms," *Journal of Sound and Vibration*, Vol. 333, (21), 2014, pp. 5324-5339.



U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

Experiment Description



Effects of Vehicle Weight and
True Versus Indicated
Airspeed on BVI Noise During
Steady Descending Flight

Stephenson & Greenwood

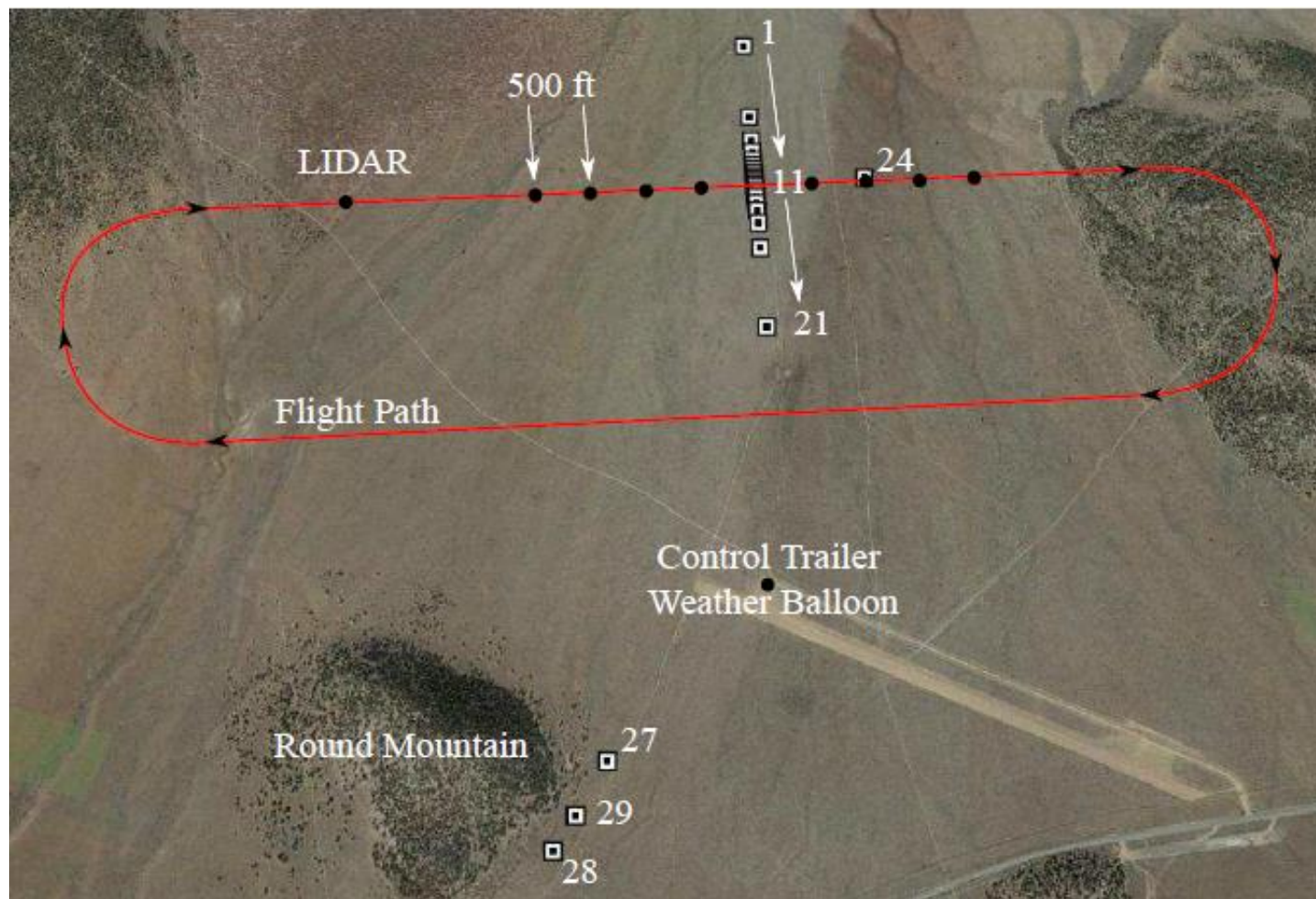
Background
Motivation
Analysis Technique

Experiment Description

Vehicle Characteristics
Flight Conditions

Results
BVI Extraction vs BVISPL
Average BVI
BVI Standard Deviation

Conclusions





U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Experiment Description



Effects of Vehicle Weight and
True Versus Indicated
Airspeed on BVI Noise During
Steady Descending Flight

Stephenson & Greenwood

Background
Motivation
Analysis Technique

Experiment Description

Vehicle Characteristics
Flight Conditions

Results
BVI Extraction vs BVISPL
Average BVI
BVI Standard Deviation

Conclusions

- (28) Wireless Acoustic Microphone Systems

- 1/2" B&K 4189 – 25 kHz sampling

- 15" Diameter ground board

- GPS Receiver



- Weather Systems

- Tethered Weather Balloon

- Weather Sonde (200')

- (up to 4) Temperature, Humidity, Pressure Sensors (~50')

- ZephIR 300 LIDAR System

- Wind velocity at 12 altitudes up to 1000'

- (5) Ground Weather Stations

- Located near Mics 1,11,21,24,27





U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

Vehicle Characteristics



Effects of Vehicle Weight and
True Versus Indicated
Airspeed on BVI Noise During
Steady Descending Flight

Stephenson & Greenwood

Background

Motivation

Analysis Technique

Experiment Description

Vehicle Characteristics

Flight Conditions

Results

BVI Extraction vs BVISPL

Average BVI

BVI Standard Deviation

Conclusions



	MR	TR	
Number of Blades	3	2	
Radius (R)	10.69	1.86	[m]
Blade Pass Frequency (f)	19.5	104	[Hz]

- Aircraft Navigation and Tracking System (ANTS)
(20 Hz sampling)
 - GPS Receiver
 - Inertial Navigation Data
- Air-Data Boom (5 Hz)
 - Outside Air Temperature
 - Static and Dynamic Pressures
 - Wind Velocities



U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

Flight Conditions



Effects of Vehicle Weight and
True Versus Indicated
Airspeed on BVI Noise During
Steady Descending Flight

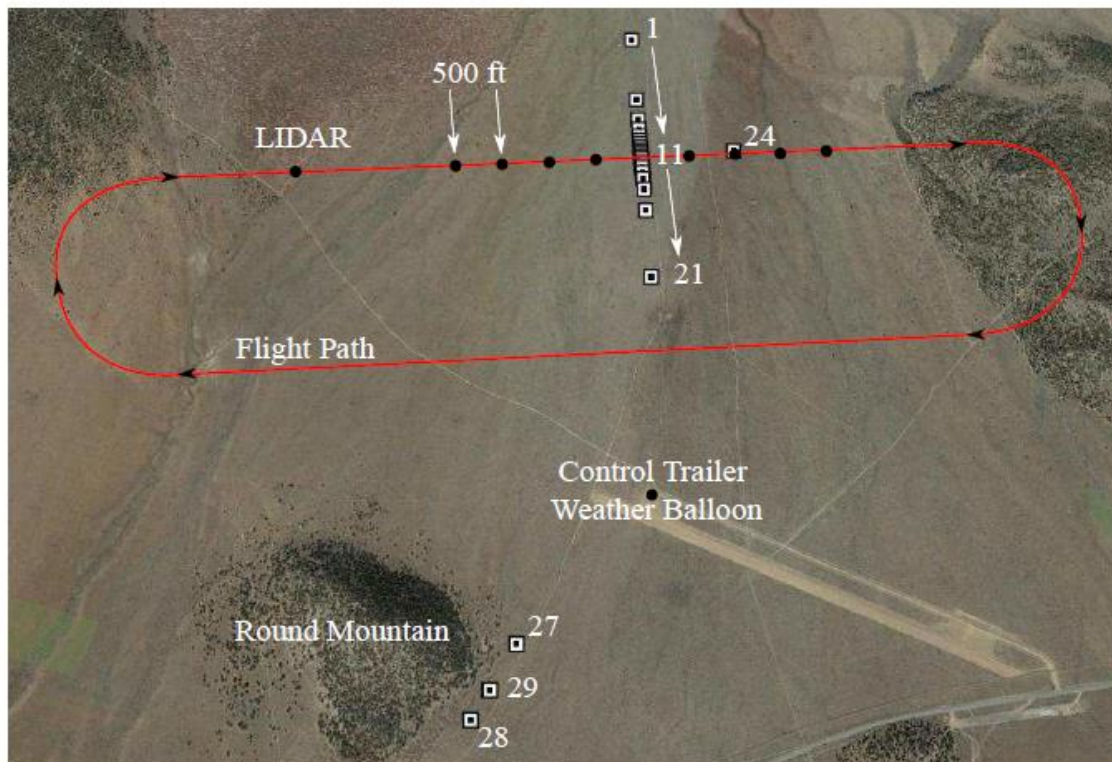
Stephenson & Greenwood

Background
Motivation
Analysis Technique

Experiment Description
Vehicle Characteristics
Flight Conditions

Results
BVI Extraction vs BVISPL
Average BVI
BVI Standard Deviation

Conclusions



6° Descent Condition

	Nom. Takeoff Wgt	
	4400	3915 [lb]
	CIAS	KTAS
80 KIAS	80	87 (Typ)
80 KTAS	73 (Typ)	80



U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

Results



Effects of Vehicle Weight and
True Versus Indicated
Airspeed on BVI Noise During
Steady Descending Flight

Stephenson & Greenwood

Background
Motivation
Analysis Technique

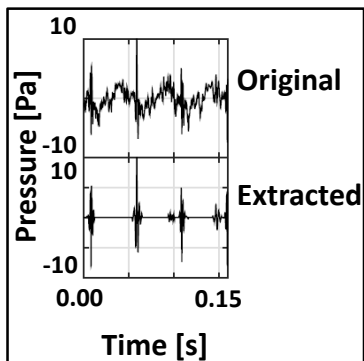
Experiment Description
Vehicle Characteristics
Flight Conditions

Results

BVI Extraction vs BVISPL
Average BVI
BVI Standard Deviation

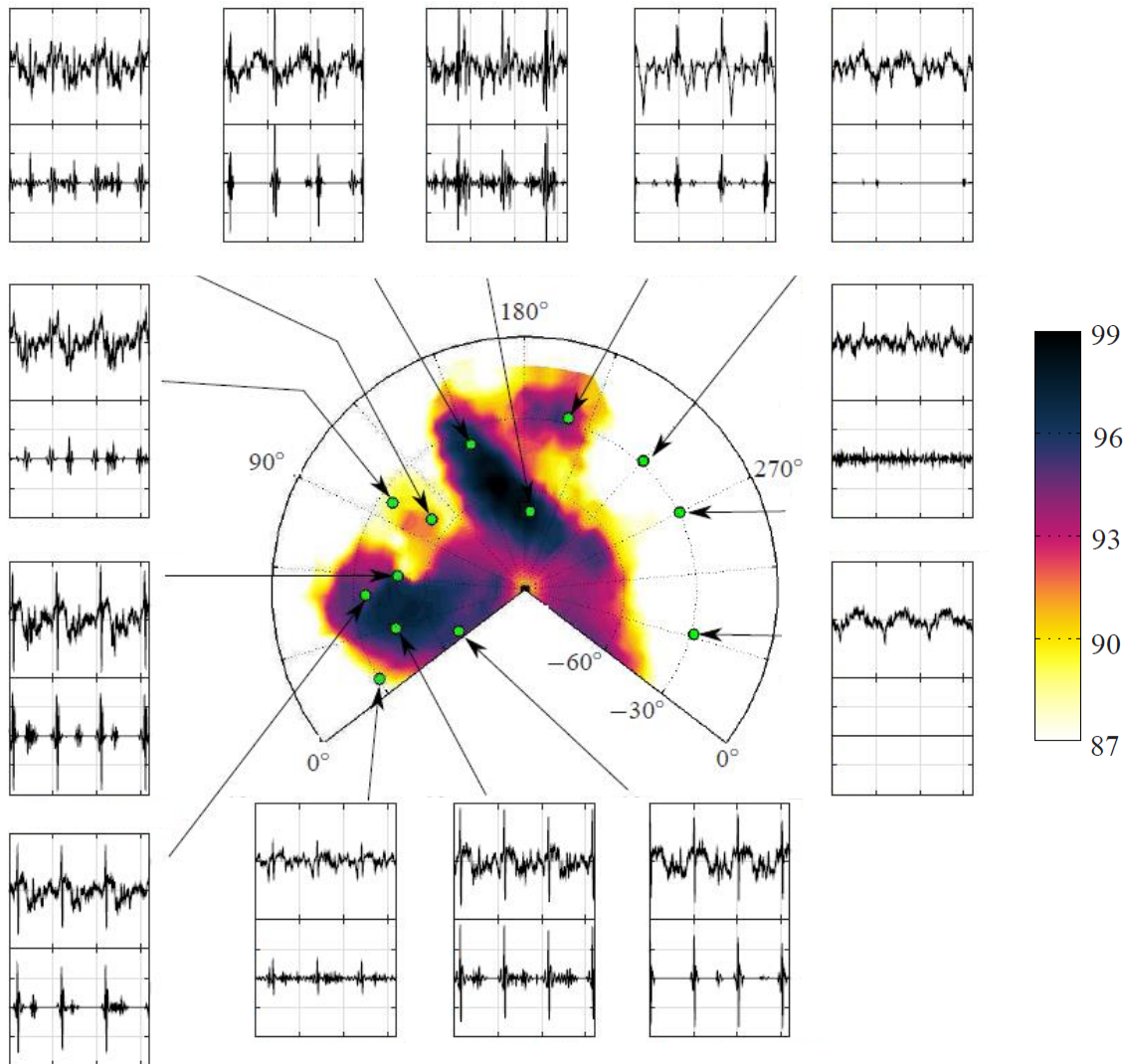
Conclusions

Guide



$$f_{cut} = 11 f_{MR}$$

$$A_{cut} = -6 \text{ [dB]}$$





U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

Results



Effects of Vehicle Weight and
True Versus Indicated
Airspeed on BVI Noise During
Steady Descending Flight

Stephenson & Greenwood

Background
Motivation
Analysis Technique

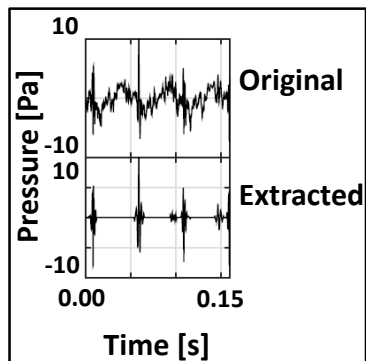
Experiment Description
Vehicle Characteristics
Flight Conditions

Results

BVI Extraction vs BVISPL
Average BVI
BVI Standard Deviation

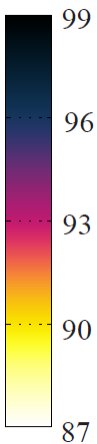
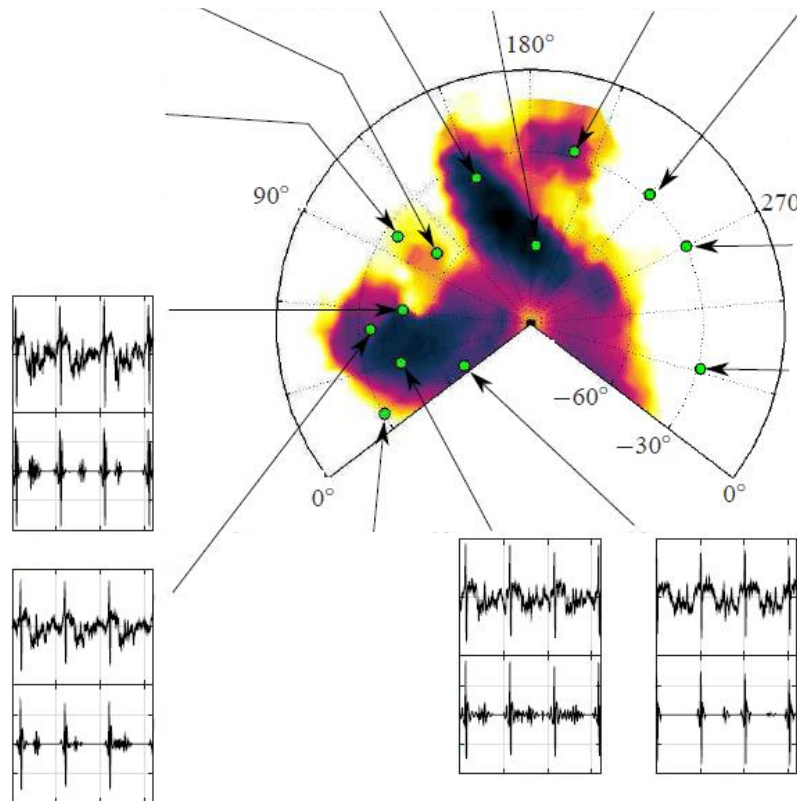
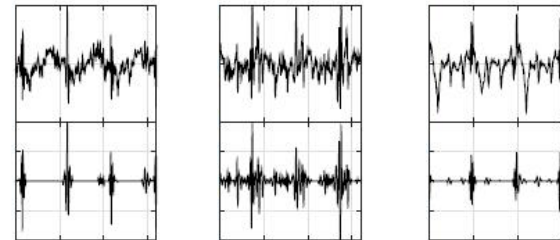
Conclusions

Guide



$$f_{cut} = 11 f_{MR}$$

$$A_{cut} = -6 \text{ [dB]}$$





U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

Results



Effects of Vehicle Weight and
True Versus Indicated
Airspeed on BVI Noise During
Steady Descending Flight

Stephenson & Greenwood

Background
Motivation
Analysis Technique

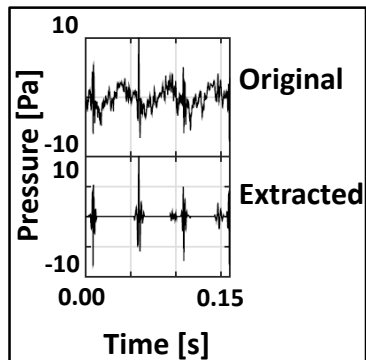
Experiment Description
Vehicle Characteristics
Flight Conditions

Results

BVI Extraction vs BVISPL
Average BVI
BVI Standard Deviation

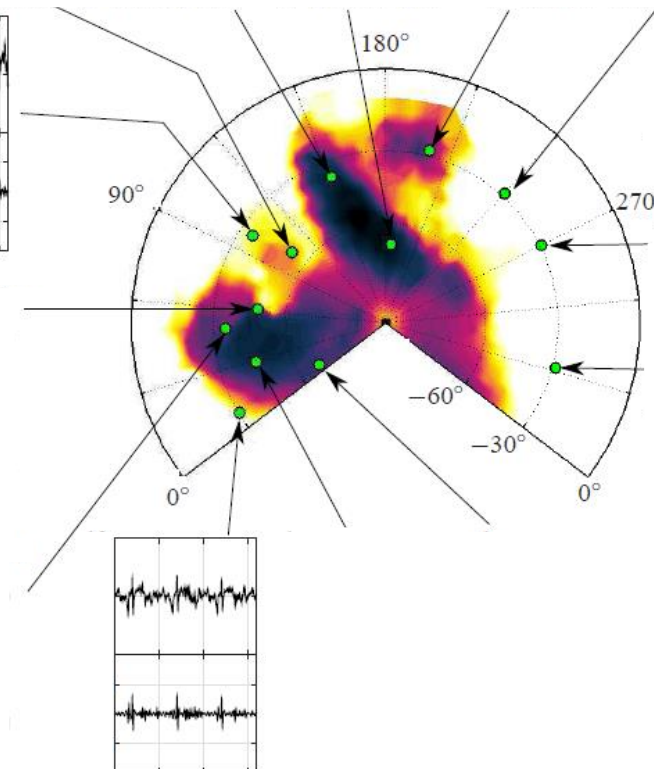
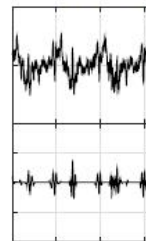
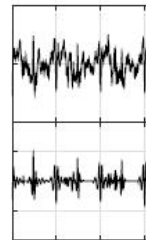
Conclusions

Guide



$$f_{cut} = 11 f_{MR}$$

$$A_{cut} = -6 \text{ [dB]}$$





U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

Results



Effects of Vehicle Weight and True Versus Indicated Airspeed on BVI Noise During Steady Descending Flight

Stephenson & Greenwood

Background
Motivation
Analysis Technique

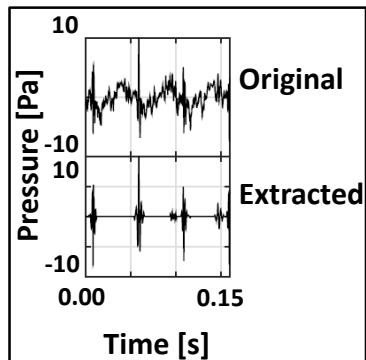
Experiment Description
Vehicle Characteristics
Flight Conditions

Results

BVI Extraction vs BVISPL
Average BVI
BVI Standard Deviation

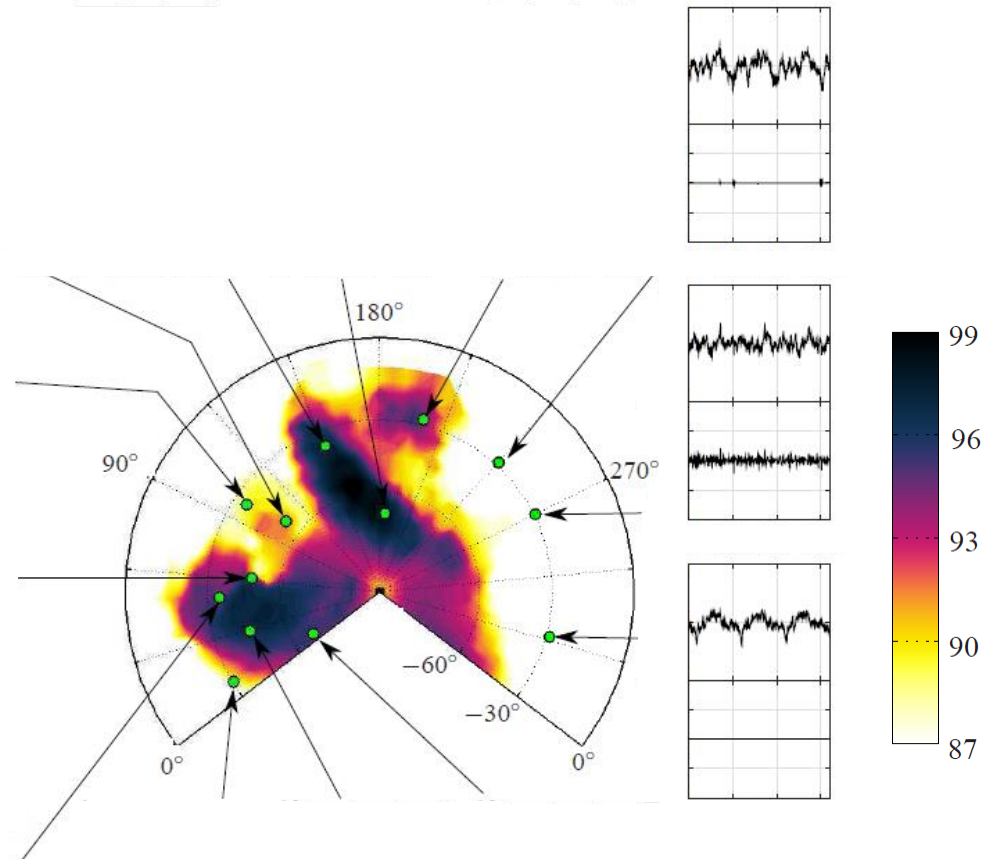
Conclusions

Guide



$$f_{cut} = 11 f_{MR}$$

$$A_{cut} = -6 \text{ [dB]}$$





U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

BVI Extraction VS BVISPL



Effects of Vehicle Weight and
True Versus Indicated
Airspeed on BVI Noise During
Steady Descending Flight

Stephenson & Greenwood

Background
Motivation
Analysis Technique

Experiment Description
Vehicle Characteristics
Flight Conditions

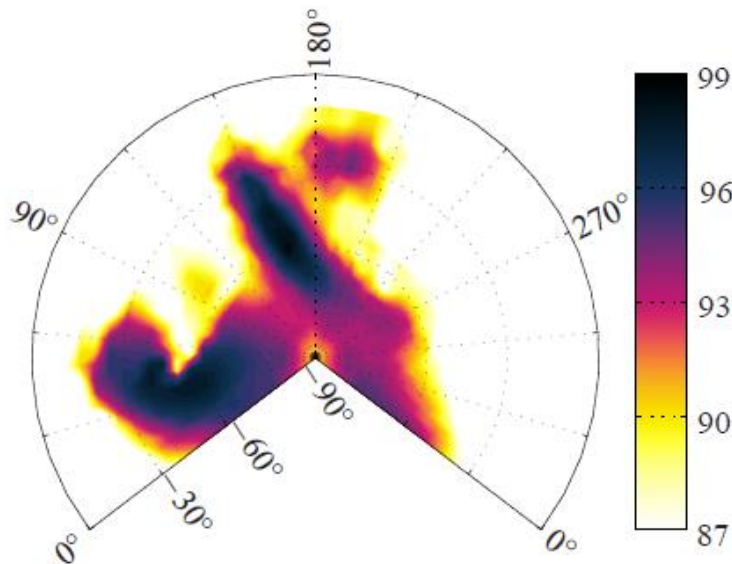
Results

BVI Extraction vs BVISPL

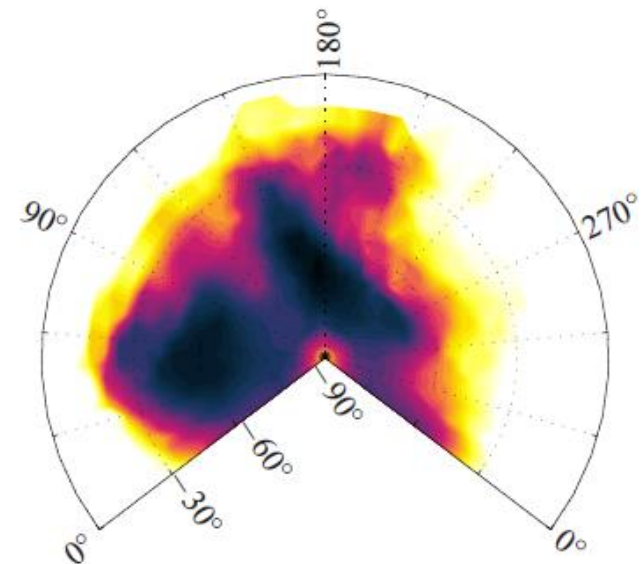
Average BVI
BVI Standard Deviation

Conclusions

BVI Extraction [dB]



BVISPL [dB]



$$f_{cut} = 11 f_{MR}$$



U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

Average BVI



80 KIAS

Effects of Vehicle Weight and
True Versus Indicated
Airspeed on BVI Noise During
Steady Descending Flight

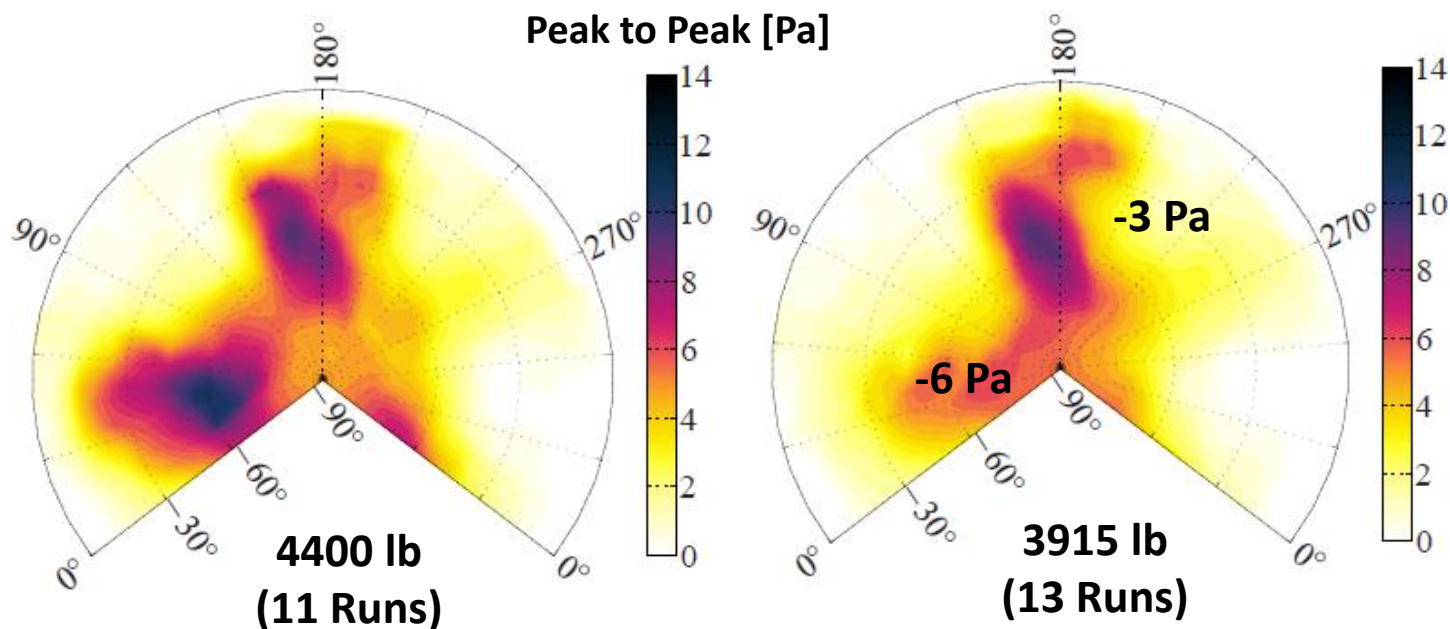
Stephenson & Greenwood

Background
Motivation
Analysis Technique

Experiment Description
Vehicle Characteristics
Flight Conditions

Results
BVI Extraction vs BVISPL
Average BVI
BVI Standard Deviation

Conclusions



$$\Delta W_{nom} = 11\% \rightarrow -1.5 \text{ Pa} \approx 1.0 \text{ dB}$$

$$\Delta W_{max} = 17\% \rightarrow -2.4 \text{ Pa} \approx 1.3 \text{ dB}$$

$$\alpha_{TPP} = -\frac{D}{W} - \gamma?$$



U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

Average BVI



80 KTAS (~73 KIAS)

Effects of Vehicle Weight and
True Versus Indicated
Airspeed on BVI Noise During
Steady Descending Flight

Stephenson & Greenwood

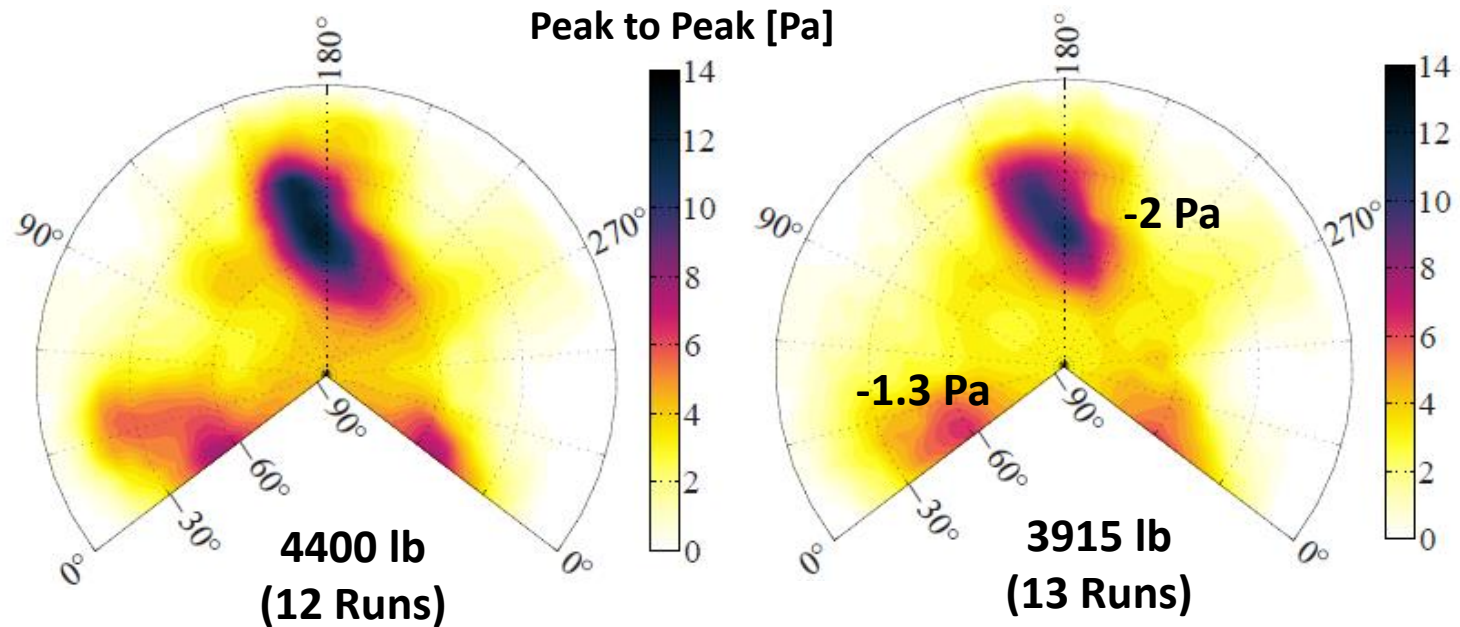
Background
Motivation
Analysis Technique

Experiment Description
Vehicle Characteristics
Flight Conditions

Results

BVI Extraction vs BVISPL
Average BVI
BVI Standard Deviation

Conclusions



$$\Delta W_{nom} = 11\% \rightarrow -1.5 \text{ Pa} \approx 1.0 \text{ dB}$$

$$\Delta W_{max} = 17\% \rightarrow -2.4 \text{ Pa} \approx 1.3 \text{ dB}$$

$$\alpha_{TPP} = -\frac{D}{W} - \gamma?$$



U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

BVI Standard Deviation



Effects of Vehicle Weight and
True Versus Indicated
Airspeed on BVI Noise During
Steady Descending Flight

Stephenson & Greenwood

Background
Motivation
Analysis Technique

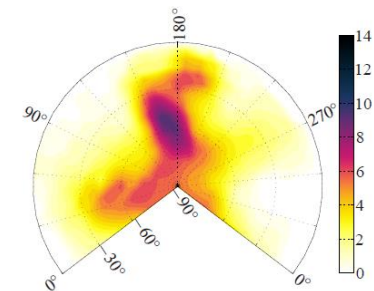
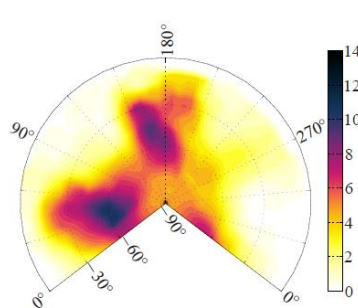
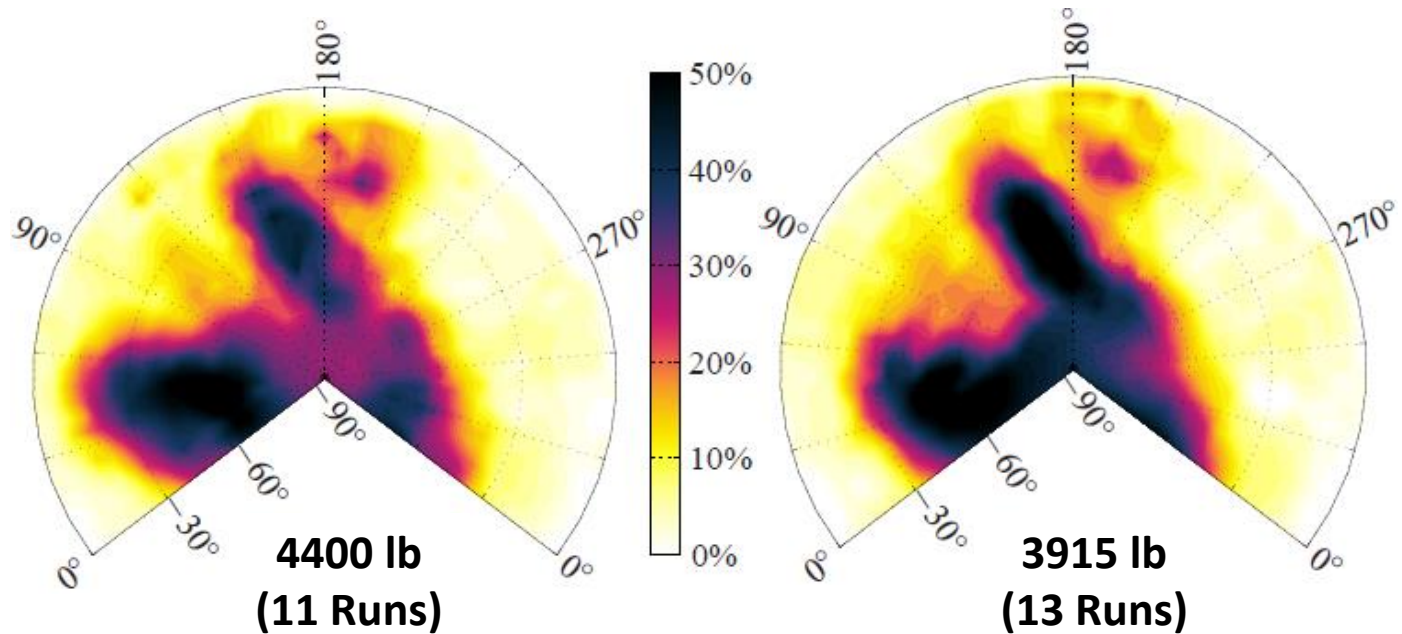
Experiment Description
Vehicle Characteristics
Flight Conditions

Results

BVI Extraction vs BVISPL
Average BVI
BVI Standard Deviation

Conclusions

80 KIAS





U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

BVI Standard Deviation



Effects of Vehicle Weight and
True Versus Indicated
Airspeed on BVI Noise During
Steady Descending Flight

Stephenson & Greenwood

Background
Motivation
Analysis Technique

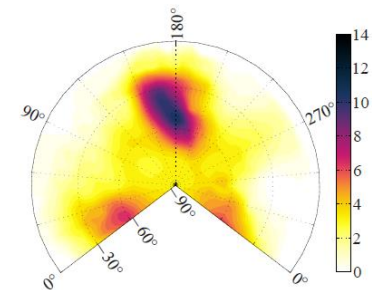
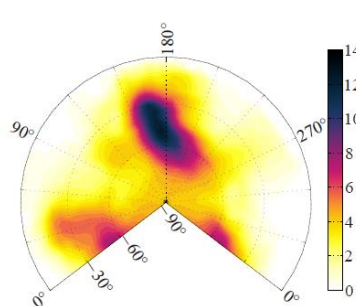
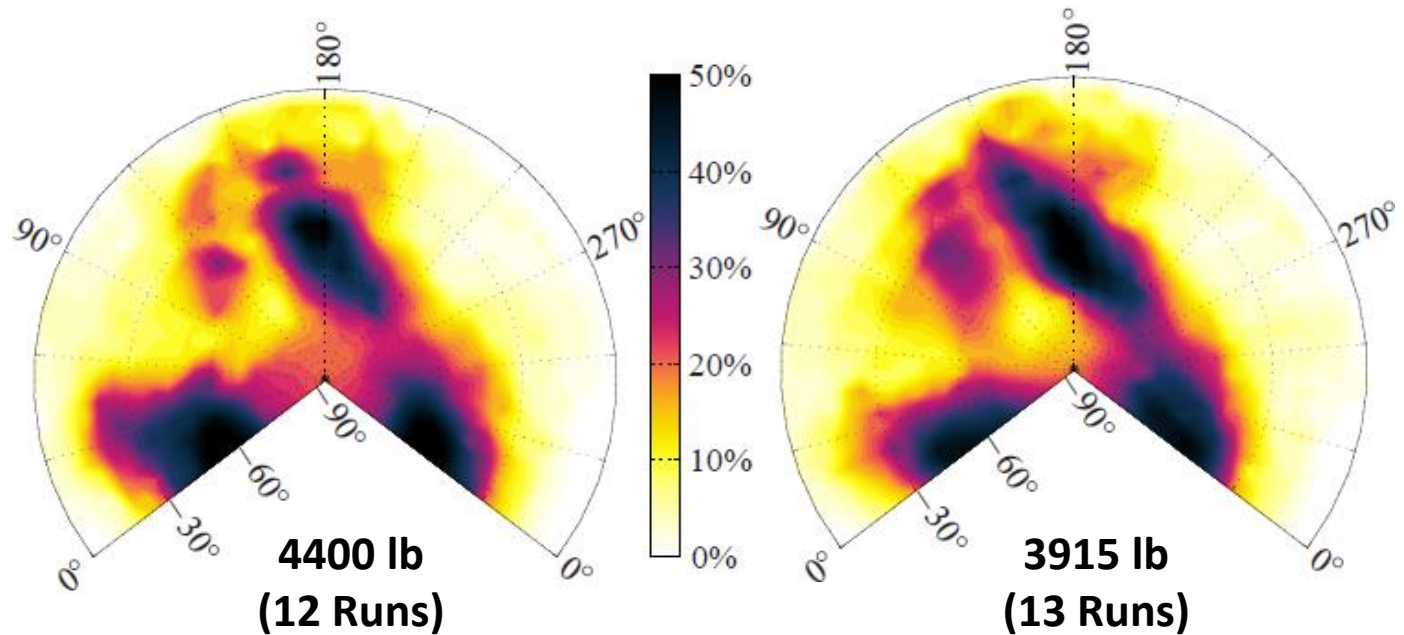
Experiment Description
Vehicle Characteristics
Flight Conditions

Results

BVI Extraction vs BVISPL
Average BVI
BVI Standard Deviation

Conclusions

80 KTAS (~73 KIAS)





U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

Conclusions



Effects of Vehicle Weight and
True Versus Indicated
Airspeed on BVI Noise During
Steady Descending Flight

Stephenson & Greenwood

Background
Motivation
Analysis Technique

Experiment Description
Vehicle Characteristics
Flight Conditions

Results
BVI Extraction vs BVISPL
Average BVI
BVI Standard Deviation

Conclusions

- BVI noise can be **strongly** affected by weight
 - Vortex Strength + Tip-Path Plane?
- BVI noise highly variable
 - Up to 50% of normalized standard deviation
 - Can be used to identify secondary BVI events



U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

Questions?



**Effects of Vehicle Weight and
True Versus Indicated
Airspeed on BVI Noise During
Steady Descending Flight**

Stephenson & Greenwood

Background

Motivation

Analysis Technique

Experiment Description

Vehicle Characteristics

Flight Conditions

Results

BVI Extraction vs BVISPL

Average BVI

BVI Standard Deviation

Conclusions

Acknowledgements

- Mike Watts
- David Conner
- Keith Scudder
- Andrew McCrae
- Nikolas Zawodny
- Aris Helicopters



U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

Flight Path and Speed Consistency



Effects of Vehicle Weight and
True Versus Indicated
Airspeed on BVI Noise During
Steady Descending Flight

Stephenson & Greenwood

Background

Motivation

Analysis Technique

Experiment Description

Vehicle Characteristics

Flight Conditions

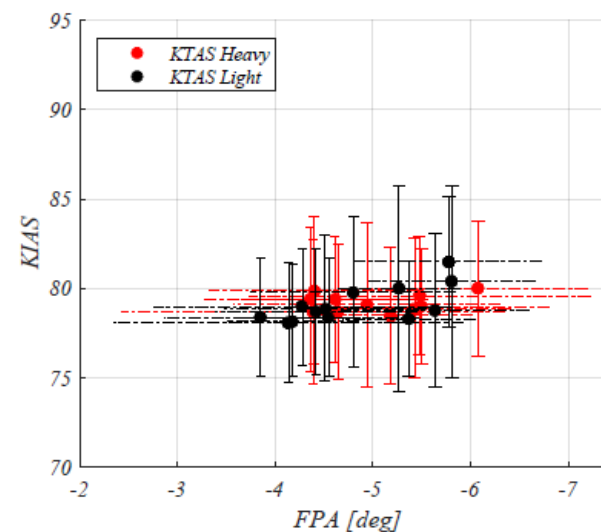
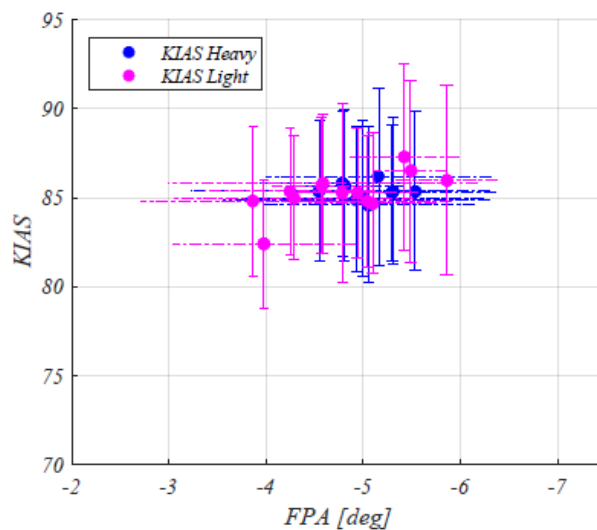
Results

BVI Extraction vs BVISPL

Average BVI

BVI Standard Deviation

Conclusions





U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

Average BVI



Effects of Vehicle Weight and
True Versus Indicated
Airspeed on BVI Noise During
Steady Descending Flight

Stephenson & Greenwood

Background
Motivation
Analysis Technique

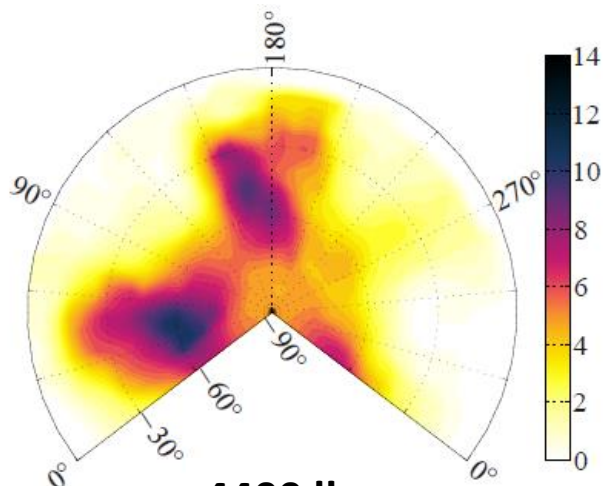
Experiment Description
Vehicle Characteristics
Flight Conditions

Results

BVI Extraction vs BVISPL
Average BVI
BVI Standard Deviation

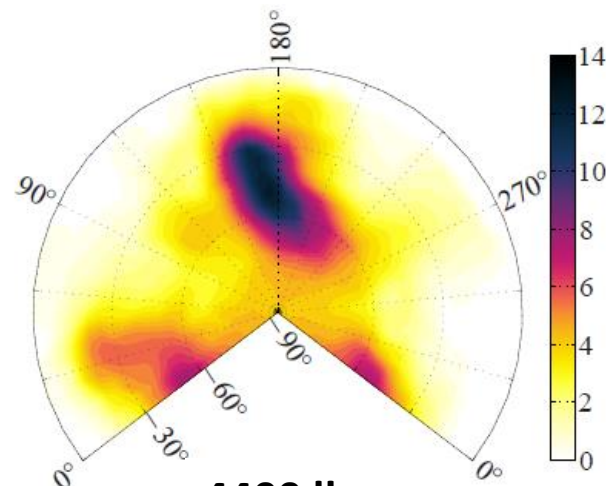
Conclusions

80 KIAS

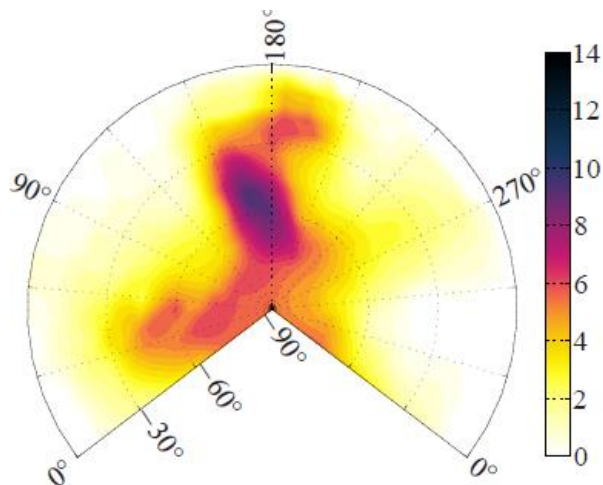


4400 lb

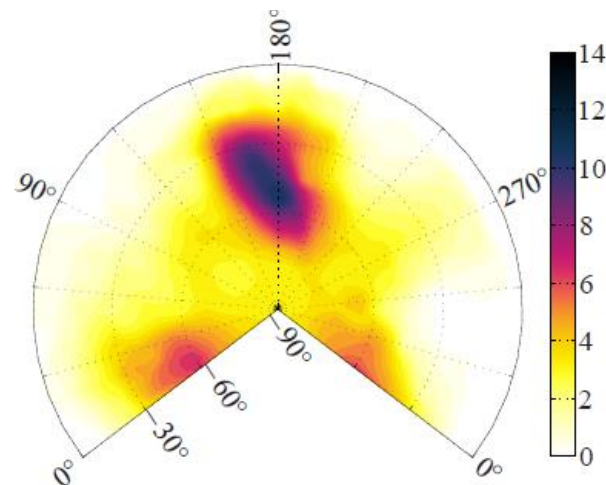
80 KTAS



4400 lb



3915 lb



3915 lb



U.S. ARMY
RDECOM

BVI Standard Deviation



Effects of Vehicle Weight and
True Versus Indicated
Airspeed on BVI Noise During
Steady Descending Flight

Stephenson & Greenwood

Background
Motivation
Analysis Technique

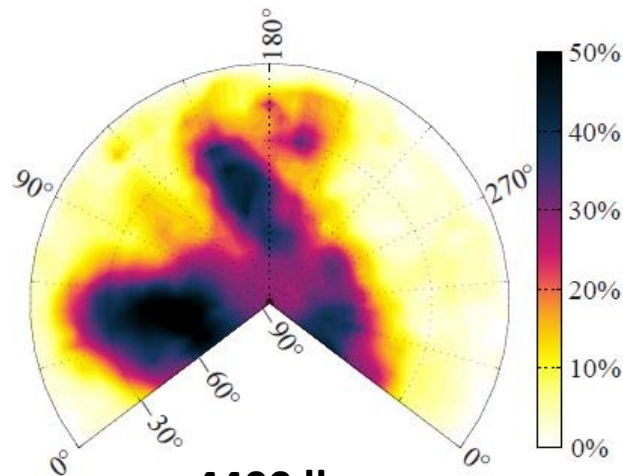
Experiment Description
Vehicle Characteristics
Flight Conditions

Results

BVI Extraction vs BVISPL
Average BVI
BVI Standard Deviation

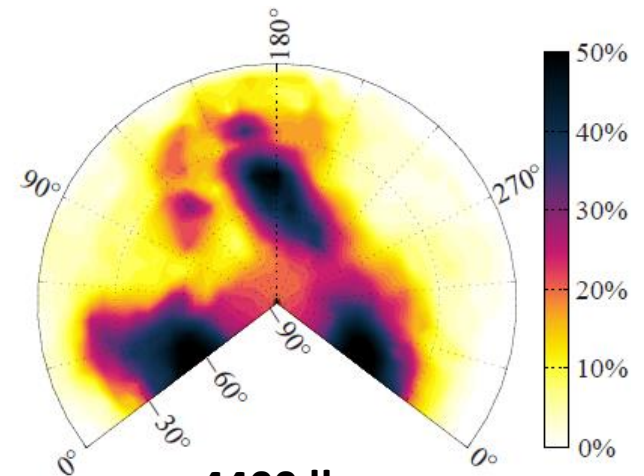
Conclusions

80 KIAS

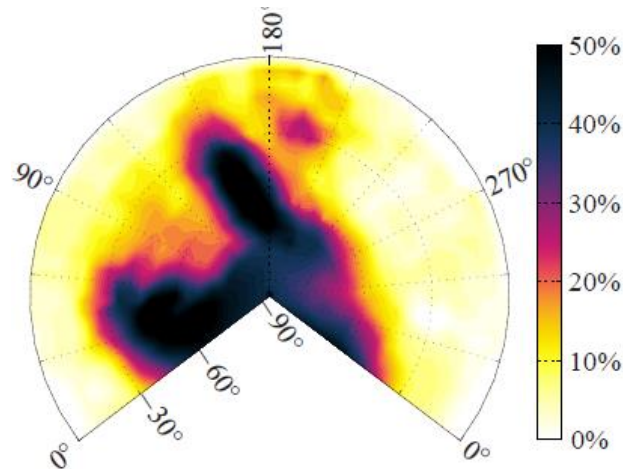


4400 lb

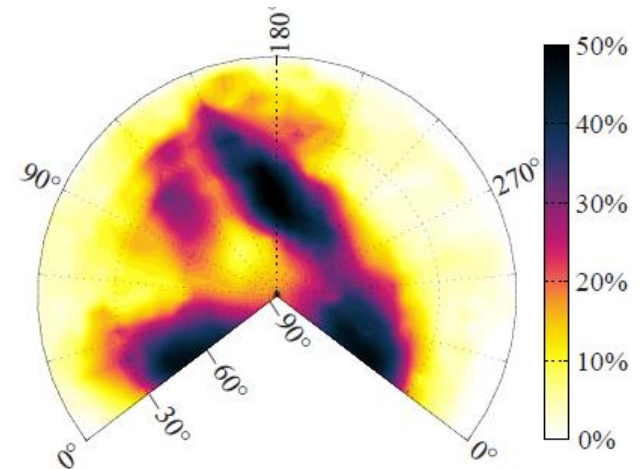
80 KTAS



4400 lb



3915 lb



3915 lb